



Admin # 232

The Northeast Utilities System

March 13, 1996

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Subject: **Merrimack Station NPDES Permit No. NH0001465
Technical Advisory Committee 1995 Annual Report**

Reference: Letter from Jane Downing to Allan G. Palmer dated March 1, 1996.

Dear Dr. Prodan:

I contacted you several times in February to discuss a specific condition of Merrimack Station's NPDES permit and how it relates to the biological and hydrological studies being performed for PSNH by Normandeau Associates, Inc (NAI). Little if any mention was made of Part I.A. 16. by technical advisory committee (TAC) members during meetings to scope the field studies required under Part I.A. 17. Ms. Jane Downing's letter (see Reference) accurately summarizes the conclusions of our discussions:

- EPA was remiss in not approving NAI's study program and making it an enforceable element of the permit as required by Part I.A. 16.a.
- PSNH was remiss in not submitting semi-annual/annual reports on the status of the NAI studies as required by Part I.A. 16.c. Our intent was to submit the reports as they became available from NAI.

This letter serves as the annual report and is to inform the TAC that all remaining field work was completed in 1995, including:

1. **Study 1.** River surveys to supplement the existing temperature database. Additionally, a statistically-based predictive model has been developed, calibrated and verified. Ten years of real time data is being inputted to assess the effects of the thermal plume on anadromous fish migrations.
2. **Study 2.** Ichthyoplankton netting to assess yellow perch larvae entrainment.
3. **Study 3.** Fyke netting and electrofishing to determine the indigenous fish community abundance and distribution.